

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
December 5, 2019, DNR Boardroom
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
The meeting will stream live at <https://youtu.be/Dlcc40gd4r0>
Revised December 2, 2019

Thursday, December 5, 2019, 9:00 am

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| 1. Approval of Agenda
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Mike Fowlks, DWR Director | INFORMATIONAL |
| 5. Town of Castle Valley Request
– Alice Drogin, Town of Castle Valley | ACTION |
| 6. Statewide Deer Management Plan
- Covy Jones, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline and Rule
Amendments
- Covy Jones, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 8. CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers for 2020 and Landowner
Association Permit Numbers for 2020
- Chad Wilson, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator | ACTION |
| 9. Proposed rule amendments to address point creep, lost opportunities and equity in
the hunt drawing process
R657-42 – Fees, Exchanges and Surrenders
R657-57 – Division Variances
R657-62 – Drawing Application Procedures
- Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator | ACTION |
| 10. Big Game Application Timeline
- Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator | INFORMATIONAL |
| 11. CWMU Advisory Committee Membership
– Justin Shannon, Wildlife Section Chief | ACTION |
| 12. Other Business
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act - Persons needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) for this meeting, should contact Staci Coons at 801-538-4718, giving her at least five working days notice.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
December 5, 2019, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the October 3, 2019 Wildlife Board Meeting.

3) Town of Castle Valley Request (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we continue with the 1999 agreement between Castle Valley City and UDWR to limit hunting on the 1400 acres to primitive weapons: muzzleloader, shotgun, and archery.

4) Statewide Deer Management Plan (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton. Motion was withdrawn after a discussion about restrictions for hunters.

MOTION: I move that we adjust the word 'skull plate' to 'clean skull'.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to create a definition of clean skull for importation from a CWD state that is less restrictive for hunters.

The following is the proposed rule language: R657-5-42(1) (e) skulls or skull plates with antlers attached, so long as all brain matter and spinal column material is removed;

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Statewide Deer Management Plan as presented with adjustment of the skull language.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we modify language for the last season muzzleloader hunt to include "...from a minimum of 5 late season muzzleloader tag and up to a maximum of 0.5 tags and anything in between".

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth opposed.

MOTION: I move that we eliminate the set 11 units and 18 units attached to each buck to doe ratio categories from the deer plan.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we change the objective from 15-17 to 14-18 with an overlap for the upper class at 18-22.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 4:1. Wade Heaton opposed.

MOTION: I move that we keep the deer management plan at 5 years rather than extend it to 7 years as recommended.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously after an amendment to the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the balance of the Statewide Deer Management Plan as presented by the Division.

The following amended motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we amend the previous motion to include a change in language from the word "achieve" to "work toward" as it has been for the past five years.

5) Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline and Rule Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we apply the same clean skull language applied in the Statewide Deer Management Plan to address CWD in the Rule Amendments.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we combine the Willard Peak mountain goat seasons into one season, providing a longer season date.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the balance of the Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline, and Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

- 6) CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers for 2020 and Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2020 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth dissented.

MOTION: I move that we approve Junction Valley's change as presented by the Division including the 640 acres with the additional public permit.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously. Bret Selman and Wade Heaton recused themselves from the vote. Kevin Albrecht voted in order to maintain a quorum.

MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of the 2020 CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers and Landowner Association Permit numbers as presented by the Division.

- 7) Proposed rule amendments to address point creep, lost opportunities and equity in the hunt drawing process. (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we add the general season landowner and general season landowner appreciation permits to the exceptions list.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed 2:3. Randy Dearth, Karl Hirst, and Bret Selman opposed.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the balance and include private landowner antlerless elk permits on the exceptions list.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we continue with the dedicated hunter program as it is and give the Division a year to evaluate combining the dedicated hunter program as a hunt choice in the general season draw and report the findings to the Board.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of proposed rule amendments for R657-42, R657-57, and R657-62 as presented by the Division.

8) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the CWMU Advisory Committee Membership as presented.

Approved

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
December 5, 2019, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Attendance

Wildlife Board

Byron Bateman – excused
Kevin Albrecht – Vice-Chair
Mike Canning – Exec Secretary
Karl Hirst
Donnie Hunter
Randy Dearth
Wade Heaton
Bret Selman – 12:25 p.m.

RAC Chairs

Central – Ben Lowder
Southern – Brayden Richmond
Southeastern – Trisha Hedin
Northeastern – Brett Prevedel
Northern – Kevin McLeod

Division Personnel

Robin Cahoon	Paul Gedge	Teresa Griffin	Roger Kerstetter
Ashley Green	Mike Christensen	Dax Mangus	Wyatt Bubak
Justin Dolling	Staci Coons	Riley Peck	Chad Bettridge
Jason Vernon	Thu Vo-Wood	Guy Wallace	Dave Beveridge
Miles Hanberg	Greg Hansen	Randy Wood	Matt Briggs
Chris Wood	Marty Bushman	Jim Christensen	Paul Washburn
Kevin Bunnell	Faith Jolley	Jace Taylor	Scott Dalebout
Ben Nadolski	Covy Jones	Kent Hersey	Kristen Hare
J Shirley	Chad Wilson	Phil Gray	Austin Grimes
Justin Shannon	Lindy Varney	Steve Newren	Xaela Walden
Kenny Johnson	Bryan Christensen	Adam Wallerstein	Brad Crompton
		Torrey Christopherson	Sarah Seegert

Public Present

Robin Steinman	Michael Christensen	Tim Pilling
Pam Hackley	Darren West	Curtis Steinman
Colleen Thompson	Scott Jensen	Richard Jordan
Brock McMillan	Richard Hansen	Joshua Lenart
Riley Hutchinson	John Lodder	Chris Perkins
Bryce Pilling	Todd Hinkins	Ben Marolf
Alice Drogin – Town of Castle Valley		Cory Huntsnar
Harry Holland – Town of Castle Valley		Riley Hutchison
Ron Camp – RMEF		Justin Atkinson
David Jordan – Southern UT Deer Alliance		Nadene Hinkins
Sterling Brown – UT Farm Bureau		Ken Clegg
Todd Black – Rangelands for Wildlife Foundation		Phil Crowther
Ash Jenkins – West Ridge CWMU		Mike Keim
Troy Justensen – SFW		Kurtley Peterson
Jeremy Anderson – MDF		
Wade Garrett – UT Farm Bureau		

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<https://youtu.be/Dlcc40gd4r0>

- 00:00:20** Vice-chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience, reviewed the meeting procedures, and had the Board and RAC members introduce themselves.
- 00:01:46** **1) Approval of Agenda (Action)**
The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda as presented.
- 00:02:06** **2) Approval of Minutes (Action)**
The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the October 3, 2019 Wildlife Board Meeting.
- 00:02:25** **3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)**
None.
- 00:02:44** **4) DWR Update (Informational)**
Mike Fowlks updated the Board on Law Enforcement section staffing, potential swan season closure, deer captures, Mineral Mountain sheep status, species down listing, and aquatic projects to improve fisheries.
- 00:07:36** **5) Town of Castle Valley Request (Action)**
Alice Drogin and Harry Holland presented the request.
- 00:31:11** Greg Hansen and Chris Wood presented the Division's concerns.
- 00:39:28** **Board/RAC Questions**
The Board asked about Federal land boundaries within the city, clarification on hunting designations, and hunting activity in the area.
The RAC wondered why it was not presented at all RACs since it could impact hunters from around the state.
The Board asked about firearm incidents, city ordinance/authority with public lands.
- 00:49:54** **RAC Recommendation**
Southeast RAC approved the request with a compromise.
- 00:51:16** **Public Comments/Division Clarification**
Public comments accepted at this time. No clarification at this time.

01:04:13 RAC Comments

Comments were accepted at this time.

01:07:41 Board Discussion

The board discussed the city boundary issues and expressed sympathy for their situation. They also noted Castle Valley has local control and should look into that to address their challenge.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we continue with the 1999 agreement between Castle Valley City and UDWR to limit hunting on the 1400 acres to primitive weapons: muzzleloader, shotgun, and archery.

01:16:11 6) Statewide Deer Management Plan (Action)

Covy Jones presented the management plan.

01:49:31 Board/RAC Questions

The Board and RAC asked about limited entry objectives and addressing objectives, carrying capacity approach, how changing language may affect the management plan, CWD elimination and strategies, and predator management to address population decline.

02:03:40 RAC Recommendations

All RACs passed the statewide deer management plan with varying dissent and stipulations.

02:15:33 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments accepted at this time. No clarification at this time.

02:44:16 Board Discussion

The chairman summarized the RAC motions. The Board discussed the motions, reviewed the management plan process and potential challenges should some of these motions pass.

02:56:25 The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton. Motion was withdrawn after a discussion about potential undue burdens to hunters.

MOTION: I move that we adjust the word 'skull plate' to 'clean skull'.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to create a definition of clean skull for importation from a CWD state that is less restrictive for hunters.

The following is the proposed rule language: R657-5-42(1) (e) skulls or skull plates with antlers attached, so long as all brain matter and spinal column material is removed;

02:59:42 Plan flexibility discussion.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Statewide Deer Management Plan as presented with adjustment of the skull language.

03:03:13 Advisory committee comment.

03:05:10 Late season muzzleloader discussion.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we modify language for the last season muzzleloader hunt to include "...from a minimum of 5 late season muzzleloader tag and up to a maximum of 0.5 tags and anything in between".

03:16:42 Opportunity vs. quality experience discussion.

03:20:48 San Juan/Abajo Unit discussion.

Bret Selman arrived at 12:25 p.m.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth opposed.

MOTION: I move that we eliminate the set 11 units and 18 units attached to each buck to doe ratio categories from the deer plan.

03:28:14 Widening the buck-to-doe ratio and flexibility for biologists.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we change the objective from 15-17 to 14-18 with an overlap for the upper class at 18-22.

03:41:21 Management plan cycle.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 4:1. Wade Heaton opposed.

MOTION: I move that we keep the deer management plan at 5 years rather than extend it to 7 years as recommended.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously after an amendment to the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the balance of the Statewide Deer Management Plan as presented by the Division.

The following amended motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we amend the previous motion to include a change in language from the word “achieve” to “work toward” as it has been for the past five years.

03:57:26

LUNCH

05:00:26

Justin Shannon gave a brief explanation of the Division’s process to address the unit-by-unit plans.

05:02:10

7) Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline and Rule Amendments (Action)

Covy Jones presented the agenda item.

05:18:36

RAC Recommendations

All RACs passed the 2020 BBOIAL recommendations with varying opposition and conditions.

05:24:44

Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments accepted at this time. No clarification at this time.

05:27:46

Board Discussion

Vice-chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC motions. The Board discussed the Green Valley opposition, Willard Peak, and CWD skull language.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we apply the same clean skull language applied in the Statewide Deer Management Plan to address CWD in the Rule Amendments.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we combine the Willard Peak mountain goat seasons into one season, providing a longer season date.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the balance of the Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline, and Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

05:34:20

8) CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers for 2020 and Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2020 (Action)

Chad Wilson presented the 2020 plans and permit numbers.

05:42:44

Board/RAC Questions

The board asked for clarification on tag determinations.

05:45:21 RAC Recommendations

Southern RAC unanimously passed the permit numbers. Northeastern RAC passed the recommendations 6:1. Northern, Central, and Southeastern RACs passed the permit numbers with stipulations.

05:50:01 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments accepted at this time.

06:00:24 The Division provided more information and clarification.

06:03:50 Board Discussion

The board discussed late applications and hard deadlines. As CWMU operators, Wade Heaton and Bret Selman recused themselves. Greg Hansen provided guidance on their choice to abstain.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth dissented.

MOTION: I move that we approve Junction Valley's change as presented by the Division including the 640 acres with the additional public permit.

06:14:27 Roan Cliffs discussion. The operator proposed a variance request and further discussion ensued.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously. Bret Selman and Wade Heaton recused themselves from the vote. Kevin Albrecht voted in order to maintain a quorum.

MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of the 2020 CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers and Landowner Association Permit numbers as presented by the Division.

06:39:55 9) Proposed rule amendments to address point creep, lost opportunities and equity in the hunt drawing process (Action)

Lindy Varney presented the rule amendments for R657-42 – Fees, Exchanges and Surrenders, R657-57 – Division Variances, and R657-62 – Drawing Application Procedures.

07:02:43 Board/RAC Questions

The board asked about dedicated hunter, preference points exceptions list, and clarification on the 30-day surrender.

07:05:31 RAC Recommendations

All RACs passed the proposed rule amendments with varying dissent. All RACs, except Southern RAC, had some provisions.

07:10:26 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments were accepted at this time. No clarification from the Division.

07:14:49 Board Discussion

The Board discussed work-related exceptions, two youth any-bull group applications, and landowner tags.

07:19:12 Landowner tags discussion.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we add the general season landowner and general season landowner appreciation permits to the exceptions list.

07:23:39 Private landowner permits discussion.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed 2:3. Randy Dearth, Karl Hirst, and Bret Selman opposed.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the balance and include private landowner antlerless elk permits on the exceptions list.

07:30:36 Combining dedicated hunter into general season discussion.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we continue with the dedicated hunter program as it is and give the Division a year to evaluate combining the dedicated hunter program as a hunt choice in the general season draw and report the findings to the Board.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of rule amendments for R657-42, R657-57, and R657-62 as presented by the Division.

07:33:38 10) Big Game Application Timeline (Informational)

Lindy Varney presented the application timeline.

07:45:10 11) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (Action)

Justin Shannon presented the committee membership.

07:47:56 Board Questions/Discussion

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the CWMU Advisory Committee Membership as presented.

07:48:48 12) Other Business (Contingent)

None.

07:49:11 Meeting adjourned.

Approved